MARVEL COMICS
NIGHTWATCH
1994 MARVEL ENT. GROUP INC.
$1.50 US
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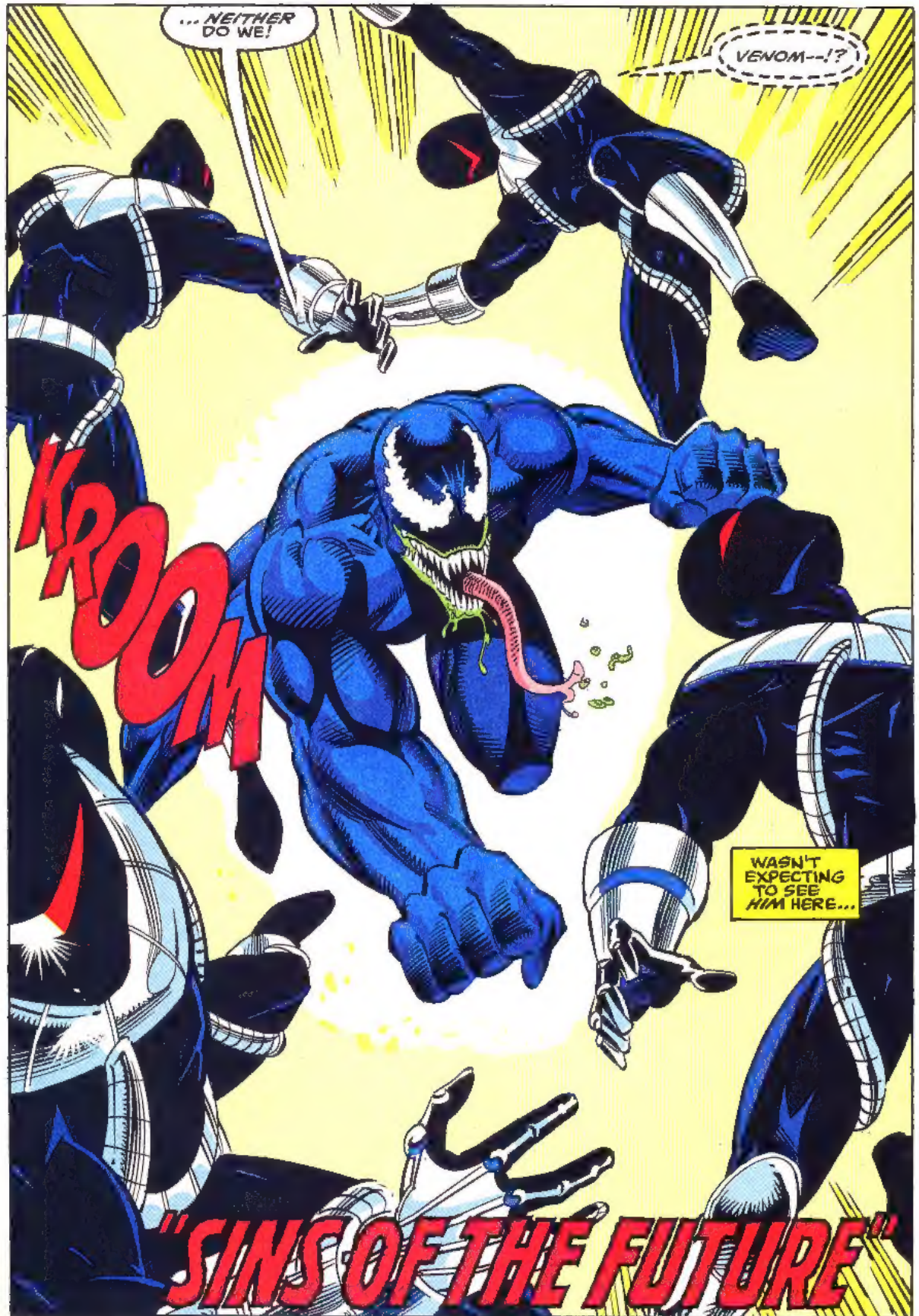
6
SEP
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
SIDE BY SIDE WITH VENOM!
PLUS: THE SECRETS OF NIGHTWATCH'S COSTUME REVEALED AT LAST!
DIRECT EDITION
STEVE P -94-

THROUGH MYSTERIOUS MEANS, DOCTOR KEVIN TRENCH ACQUIRED A SOPHISTICATED BATTLE SUIT OF IMMENSE POWER. FAILING TO USE THE POWER ADEPTLY HIS FIRST TIME OUT, HE WITHDREW FROM THE WORLD. BUT NOW HE HAS COME TO REALIZE THAT ALL IT TAKES FOR EVIL TO TRIUMPH IS FOR GOOD TO GIVE UP AND DO NOTHING. THUS, TRENCH HAS BECOME A GRIM CRUSADER, POISED TO BATTLE HIGH-TECH TERROR WHEREVER AND WHENEVER IT REARS ITS HEAD! STAN LEE PRESENTS . . .

NIGHTWATCH!

CAME TO SAN FRANCISCO TO FACE MY FUTURE AS KEVIN TRENCH...
...AND I CAME TO THE LOCAL MORELLE PHARMACEUTICALS COMPLEX TO DISCOVER THE SECRET OF MY NIGHTWATCH COSTUME.
PRIORITY-ALPHA ALARM--!
EVACUATE THE COMPOUND!
AROOGAROOGAROOGA
I FOUND FAR MORE THAN I EVER ANTICIPATED...
ENJOY YOUR BIO-ELECTRIC NAP, INVADER...
...THE SILENT SHADOWS TAKE NO PRISONERS!
WHAT A COINCIDENCE...
...BUT I AM IN NO POSITION TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT NOW.

NIGHTWATCH™ Vol. 1, No. 6, September, 1994. Published by MARVEL COMICS, Terry Stewart, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. **Application to mail at second class postage is pending at New York, N.Y., and at additional mailing offices.** Published monthly. Copyright © 1994 by Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $1.50 per copy in the U.S. and $2.05 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: U.S. $18.00; foreign $30.00; and Canadian subscribers must add $10.00 for postage and GST. GST #R127032852. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. NIGHTWATCH (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. **POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO NIGHTWATCH, c/o MARVEL DIRECT MARKETING CORP./SUBSCRIPTION DEPT. P.O. BOX 1979 DANBURY, CT. 06813-1979. TELEPHONE # (212) 696-0810. Printed in the U.S.A.**



TERRY KAVANAGH *WRITER*
MARK TENNEY & ROY BURDINE *PENCILERS*
DON HUDSON, THOMAS FLORIMONTE & RICHARD PEROTTA *INKERS*
MOEDE, POWELL & ROSEN *LETTERERS*
FOYE & PELOSI *COLORISTS*
ERIC FEIN *EDITOR*
DANNY FINGEROTH *GROUP EDITOR*
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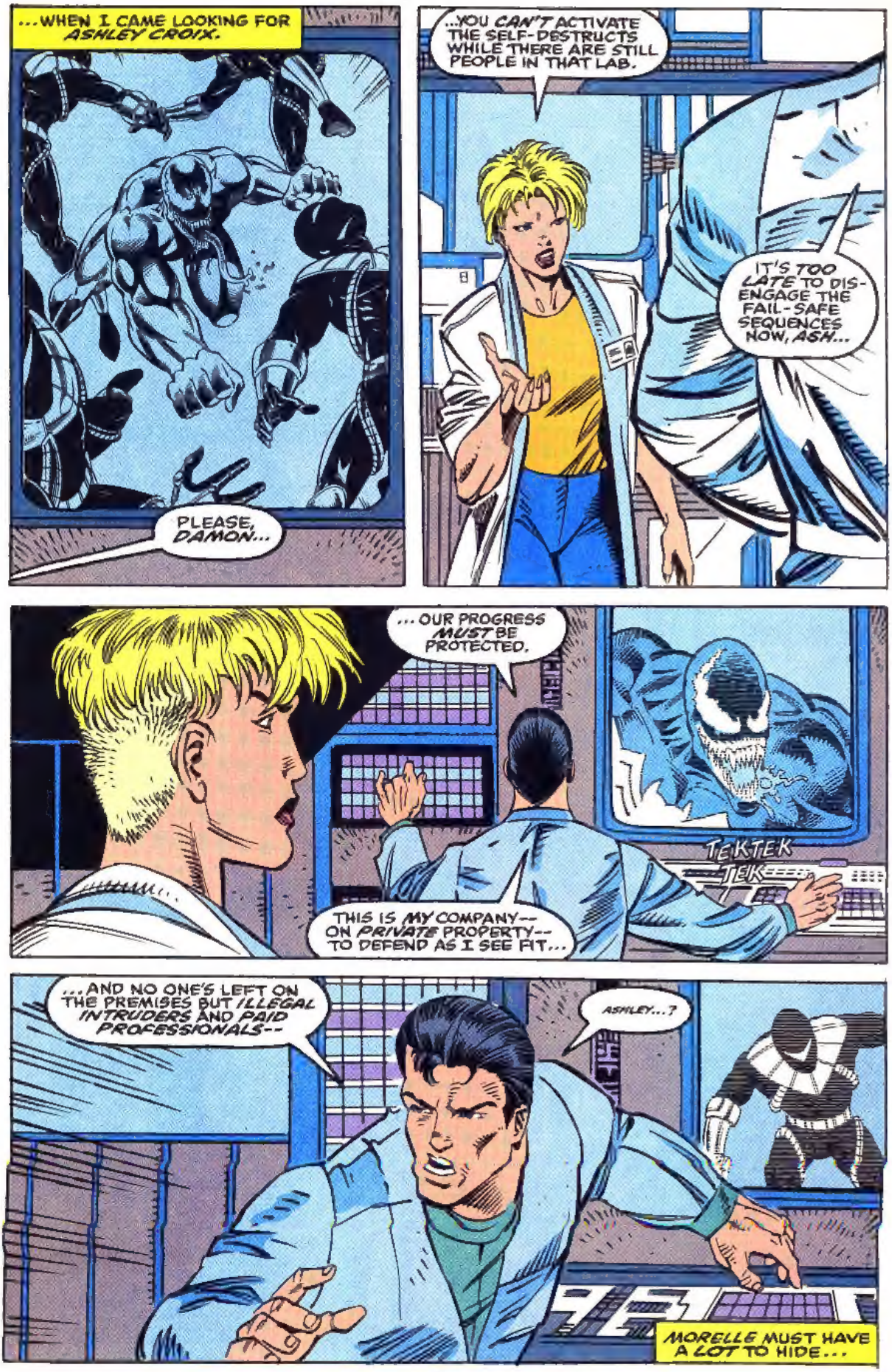

...WHEN I CAME LOOKING FOR ASHLEY CROIX.
PLEASE, DAMON...
...YOU CAN'T ACTIVATE THE SELF-DESTRUCTS WHILE THERE ARE STILL PEOPLE IN THAT LAB.
IT'S TOO LATE TO DISENGAGE THE FAIL-SAFE SEQUENCES NOW, ASH...
...OUR PROGRESS MUST BE PROTECTED.
TEK TEK TEK
THIS IS MY COMPANY--ON PRIVATE PROPERTY--TO DEFEND AS I SEE FIT...
...AND NO ONE'S LEFT ON THE PREMISES BUT ILLEGAL INTRUDERS AND PAID PROFESSIONALS--
ASHLEY...?
MORELLE MUST HAVE A LOT TO HIDE...

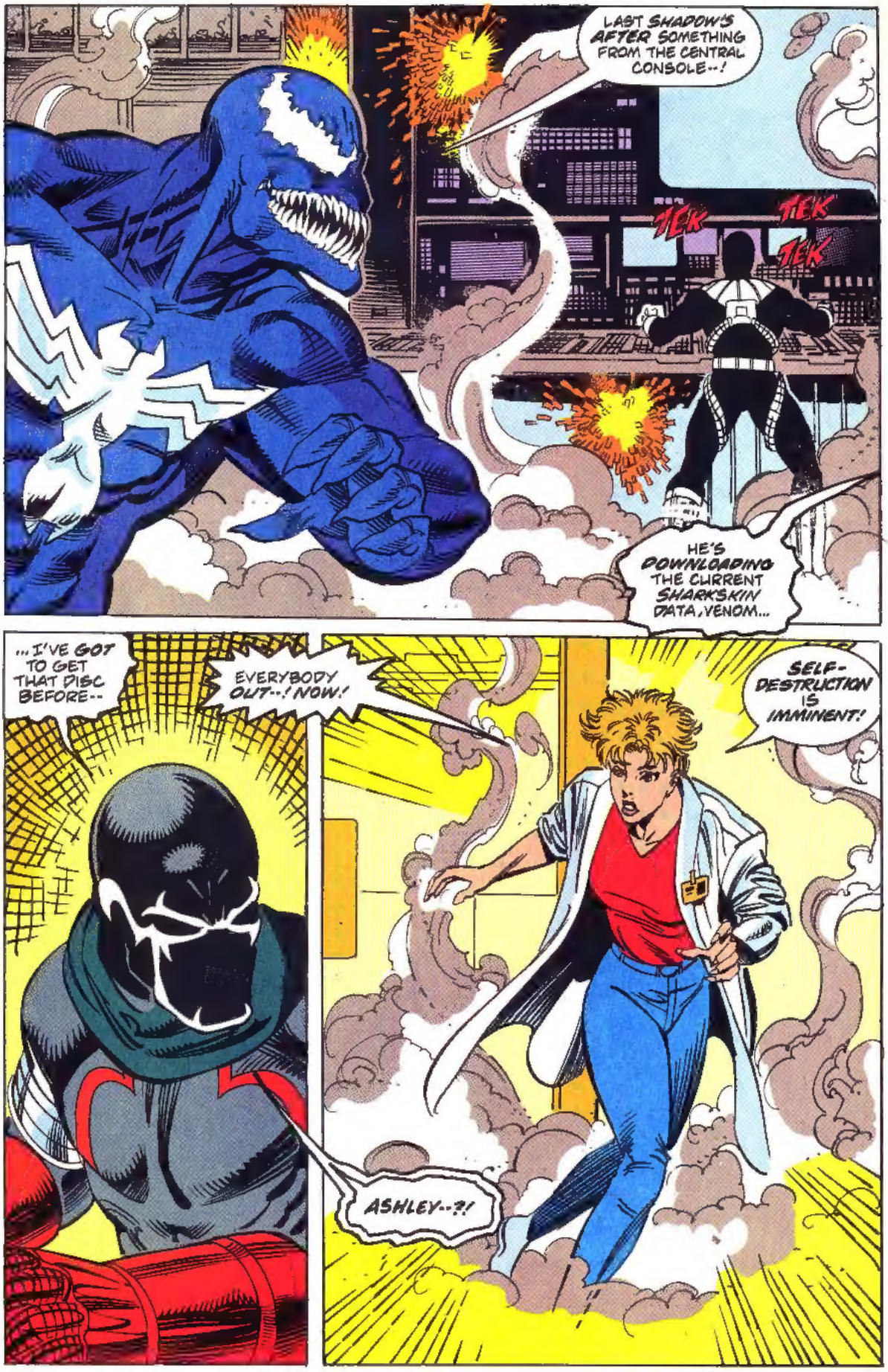
WE'RE ALL PLAYING FOR KEEPS HERE.
QUICK AND QUIET, SHADOWS--
--WHILE THE OTHER IS STILL PARA-LYZED!
SO CLOSE, AND YET SO VERY FAR...
...BUT I HAVE TO DESTROY THAT-- THIS CURSED COSTUME-- BEFORE IT'S COMPLETE.
BEFORE IT DOOMS US ALL.
KWOK
JUST ANOTHER THING WE HAVE IN COMMON, BOYS...
...SLIPPING AND SLIDING THROUGH SHADOWS.
S-SUDDEN PAIN...
...FIRST THING I'VE FELT SINCE --
NO--
FSSSSH

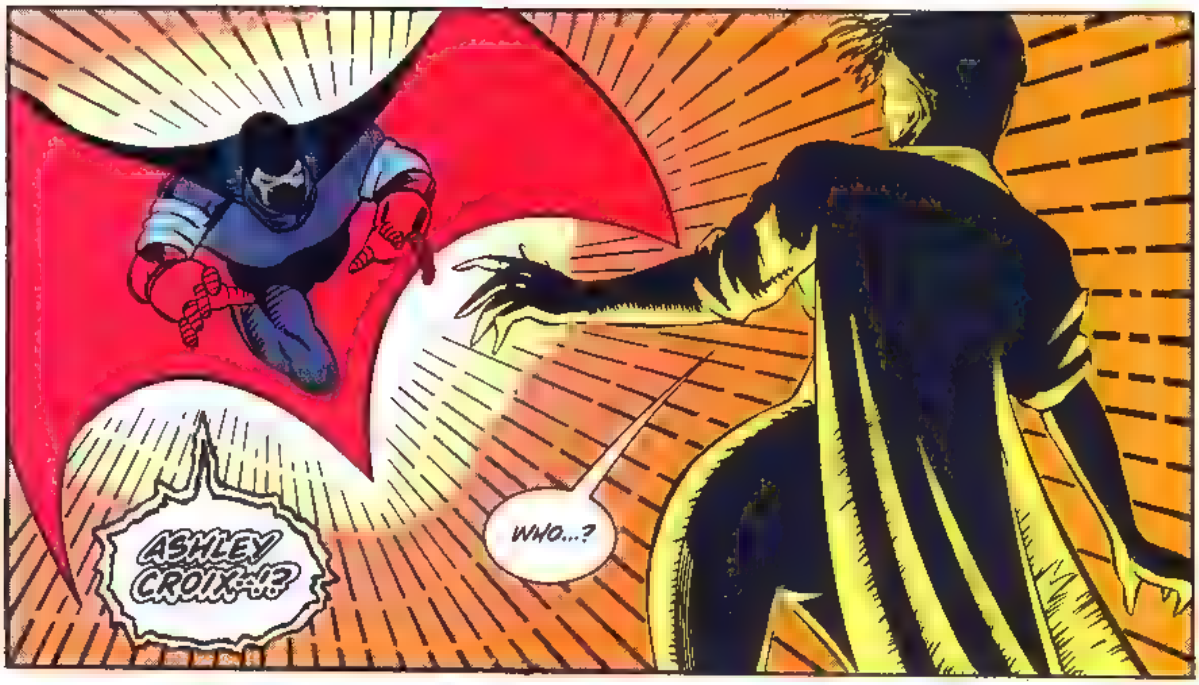
--THE CAPSULE'S,,,RETREATING INTO THE FLOOR.
I WON'T--I CAN'T--ALLOW MY FATE,,,
,,,TO BE TAKEN OUT OF MY HANDS AGAIN.
VENOM IS A DANGEROUS LUNATIC, TEAM--
ZTTZ
ZTTZ
ZTTZ
--SET PARA-LASERS TO KILL!
FEELING'S COMING BACK TO MY LIMBS, AND VENOM NEEDS MY HELP,,,
,,,BUT THAT COSTUME--THE VERY KEY TO MY FATAL FUTURE--IS ALMOST OUT OF REACH ALREADY.
FSSSH

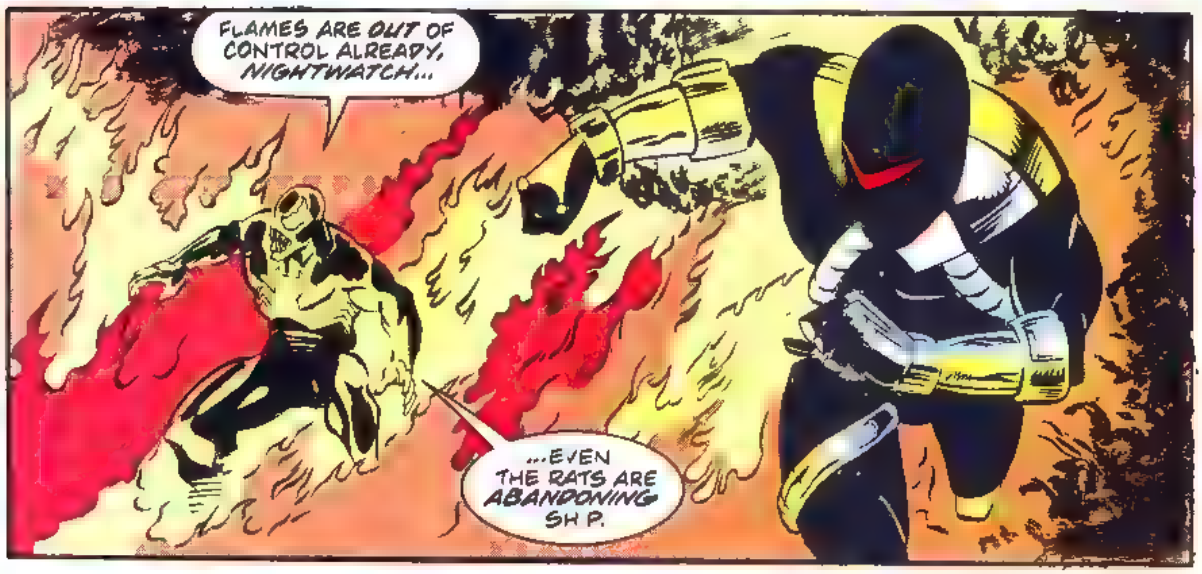
NO DECISION REALLY.
TOOM
NEVER EVEN BEEN A CHOICE FOR ME--SINCE DAY ONE--
OOPH!
--I CAN'T LET ANYONE ELSE BE HURT.
...BUT HOW DID YOU GET HERE?
APPRECIATE THE DIVERSION, VENOM...
I WAS DOWN THE HALL WRAPPING UP SOME LOOSE ENDS WHEN YOU CRASHED THE PARTY, * NIGHTWATCH...
* LAST ISSUE. -- ERIC
...NOW THEY'RE BURNING DOWN THE HOUSE.
SINCE THE HEART OF PROJECT: SHARKSKIN'S BEEN SPIRITED AWAY TO SAFETY ALREADY...

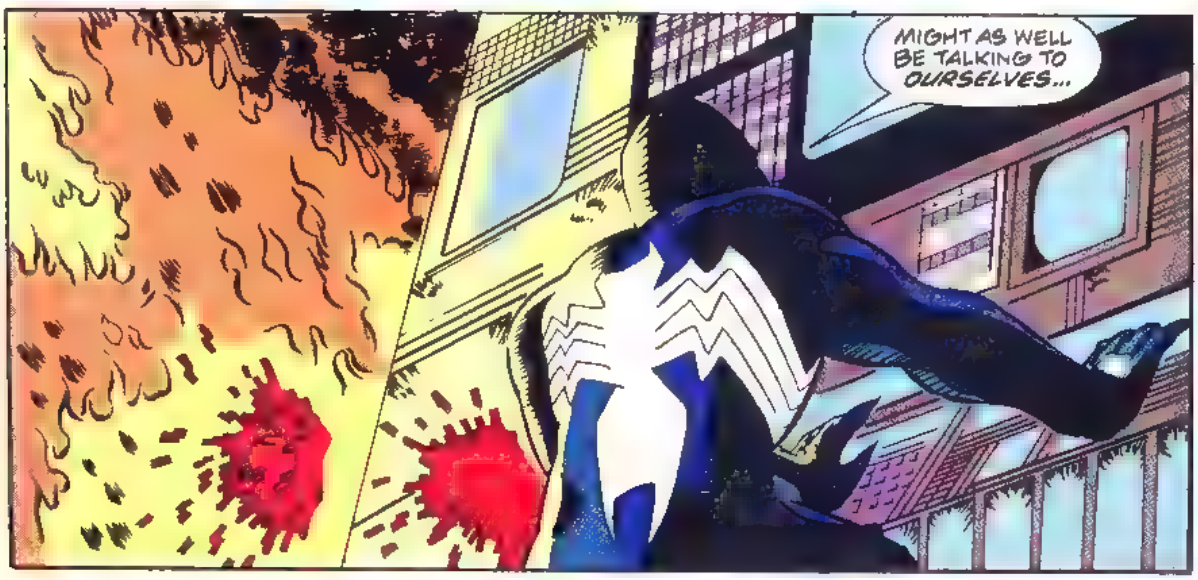
POOM
...THERE'S NOTHING TO LOSE!
POOM
ONE DOWN, BUT THE EXPLOSIONS ARE INCREASING IN--
EAARGH!
SWOK
SKZZZZ
RIGHT ARM'S OUT OF COMMISSION FOR THE DURATION...
...AND MY INFRAREDS ARE PICKING UP TWO SHADOWS HIDING IN THE SMOKE.
TIME TO LET MY CLOAK DO THE TALKING.
SHLCK
UHNN...
SHLCK
URRK...

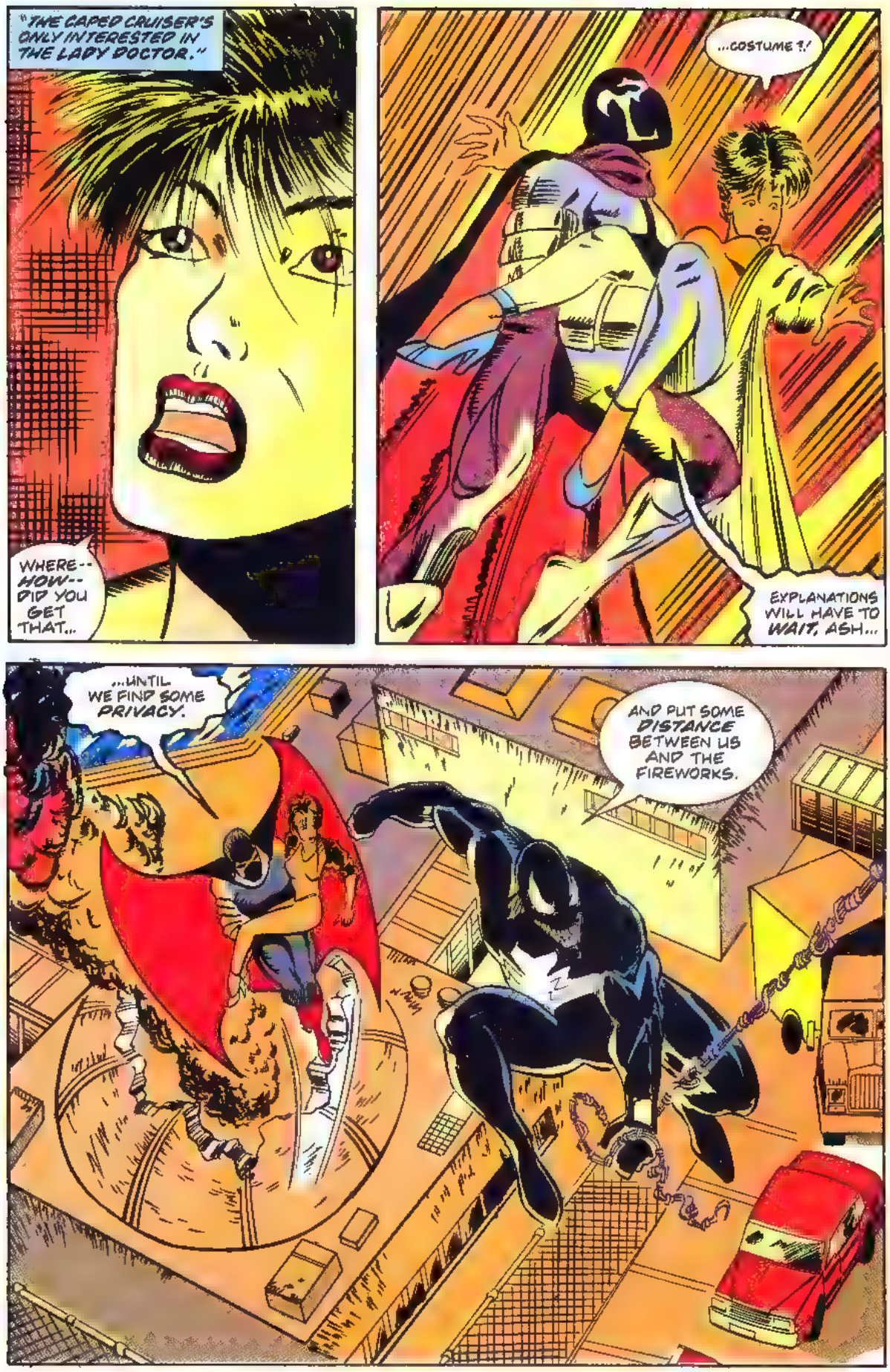
WE COULD LEARN TO LIKE YOUR STYLE, NIGHTWATCH...
POOM
...BUT YOU LACK THE KILLER INSTINCT!
PLP
KRAAK

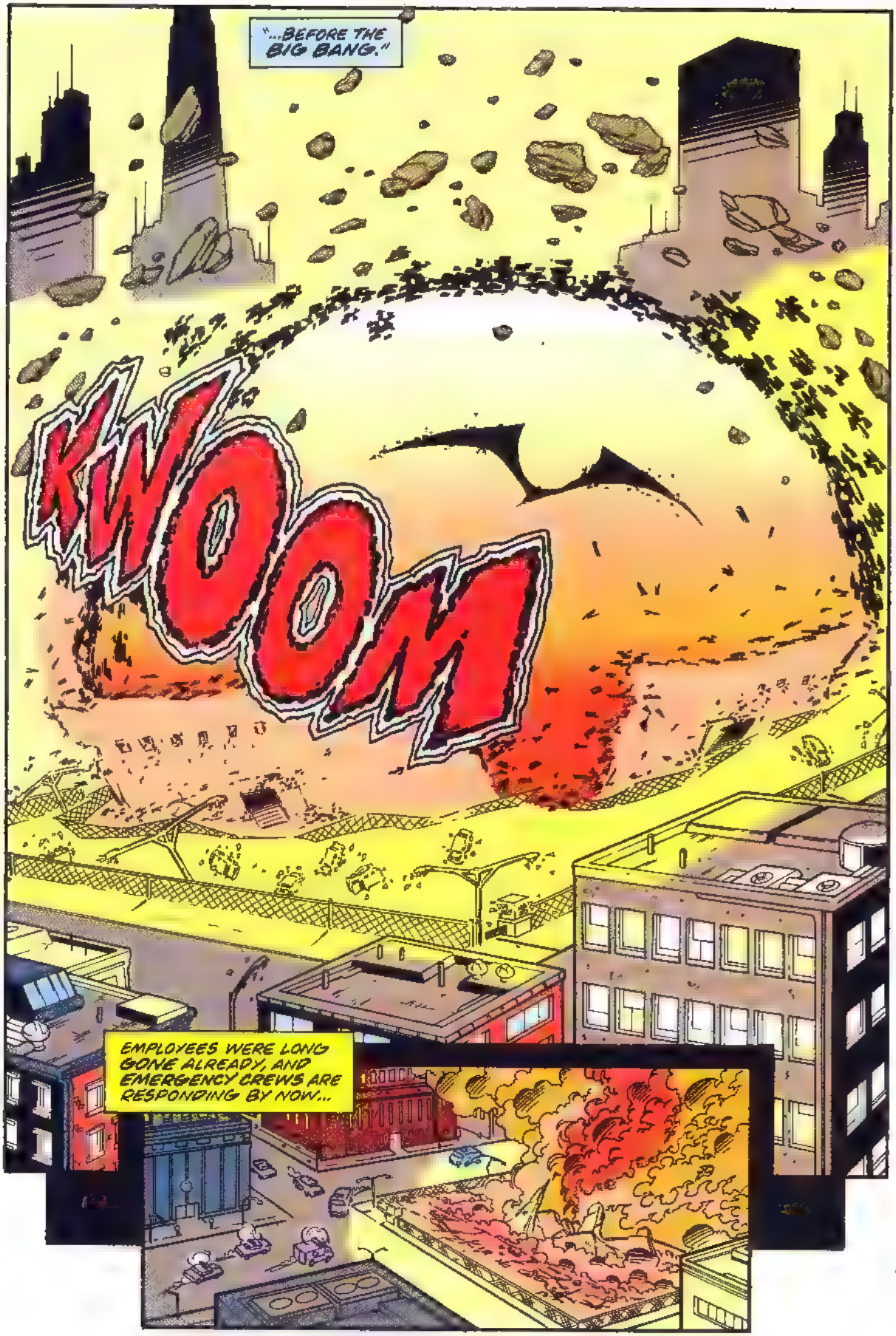

LAST SHADOW'S AFTER SOMETHING FROM THE CENTRAL CONSOLE--!
TEK
TEK
TEK
HE'S DOWNLOADING THE CURRENT SHARKSKIN DATA, VENOM...
...I'VE GOT TO GET THAT DISC BEFORE--
EVERYBODY OUT--! NOW!
SELF-DESTRUCTION IS IMMINENT!
ASHLEY--?!

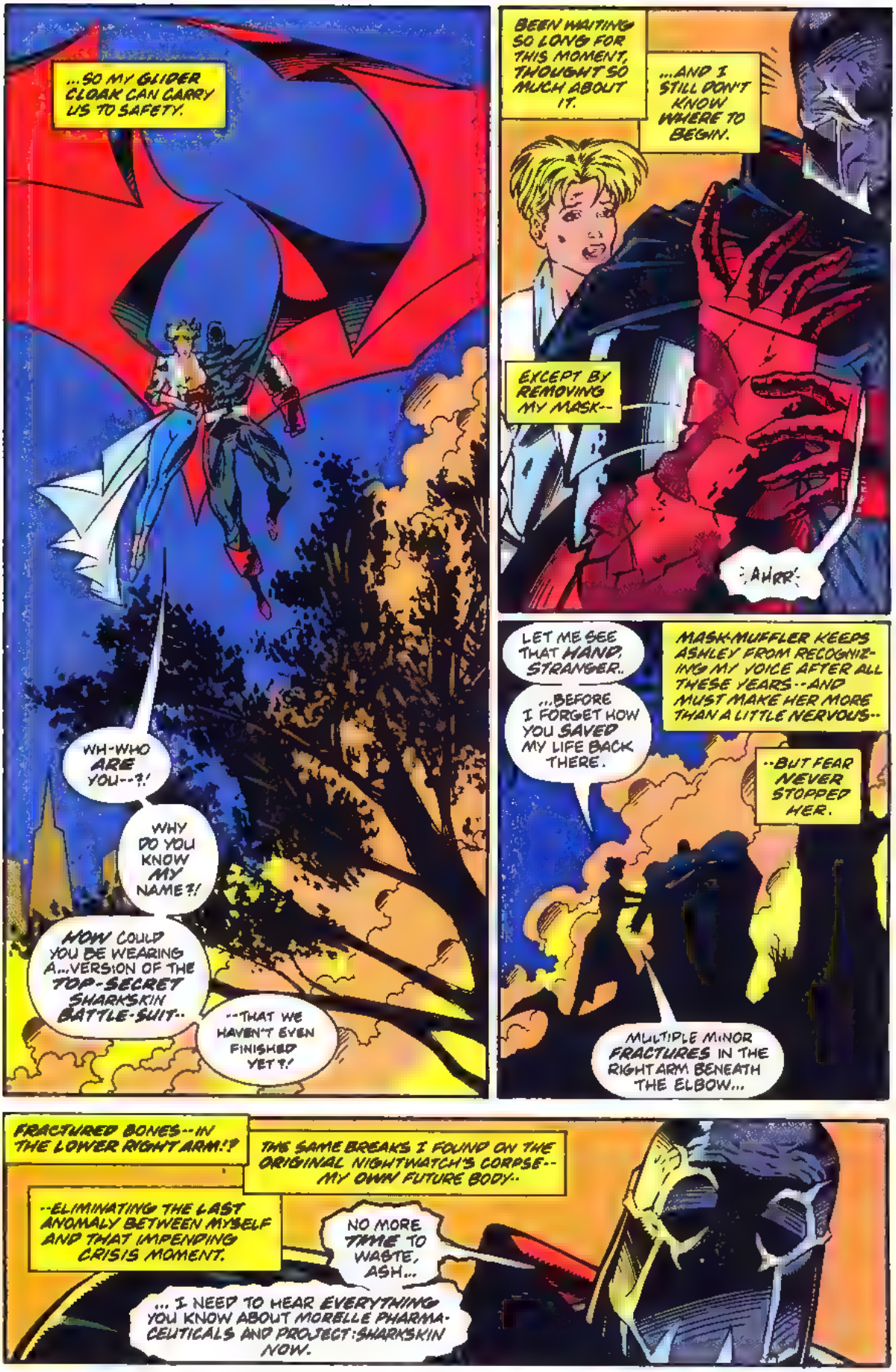

ASHLEY CROIX--!?
WHO...?

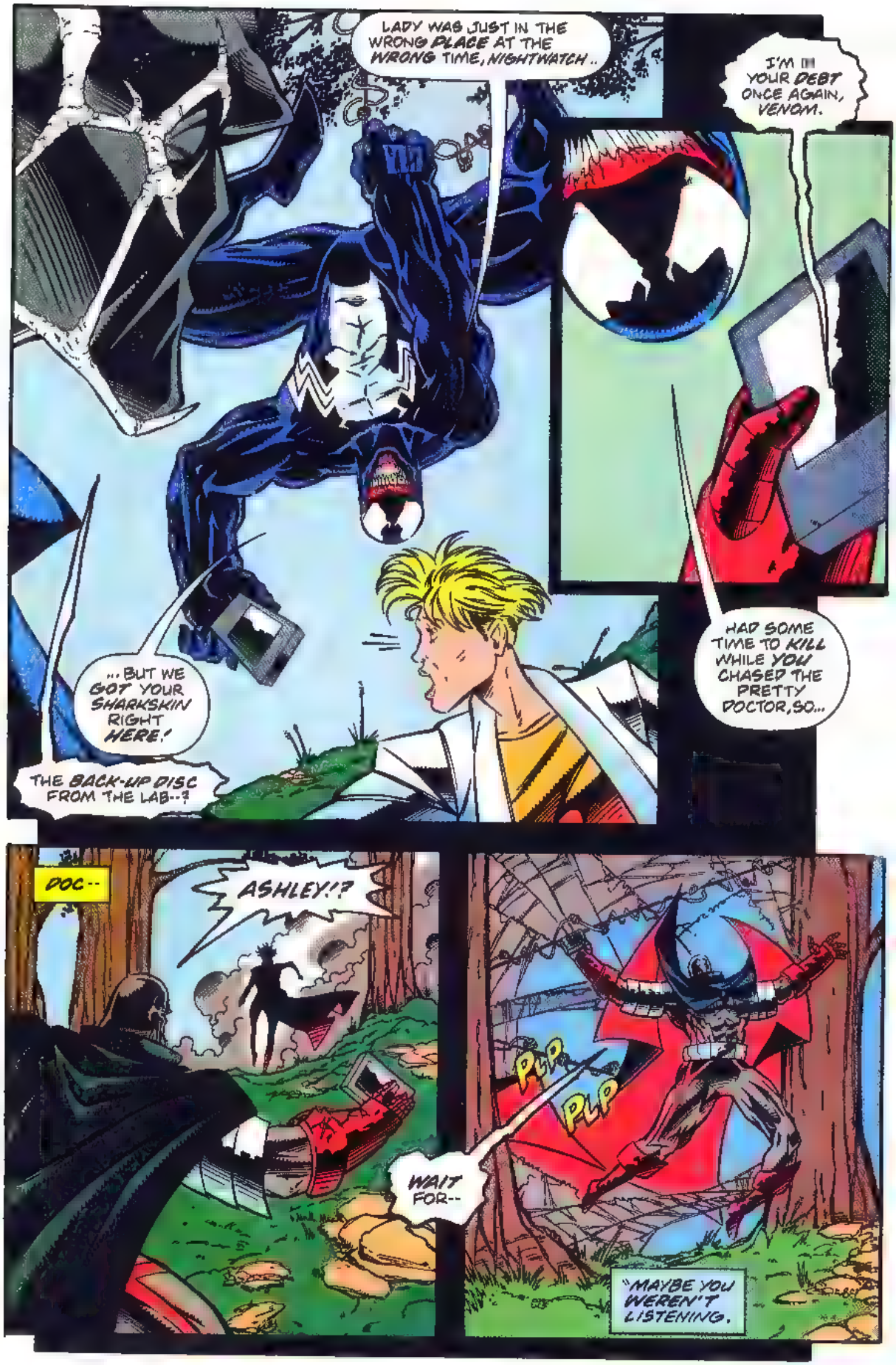

FLAMES ARE OUT OF CONTROL ALREADY, NIGHTWATCH...
...EVEN THE RATS ARE ABANDONING SH P.

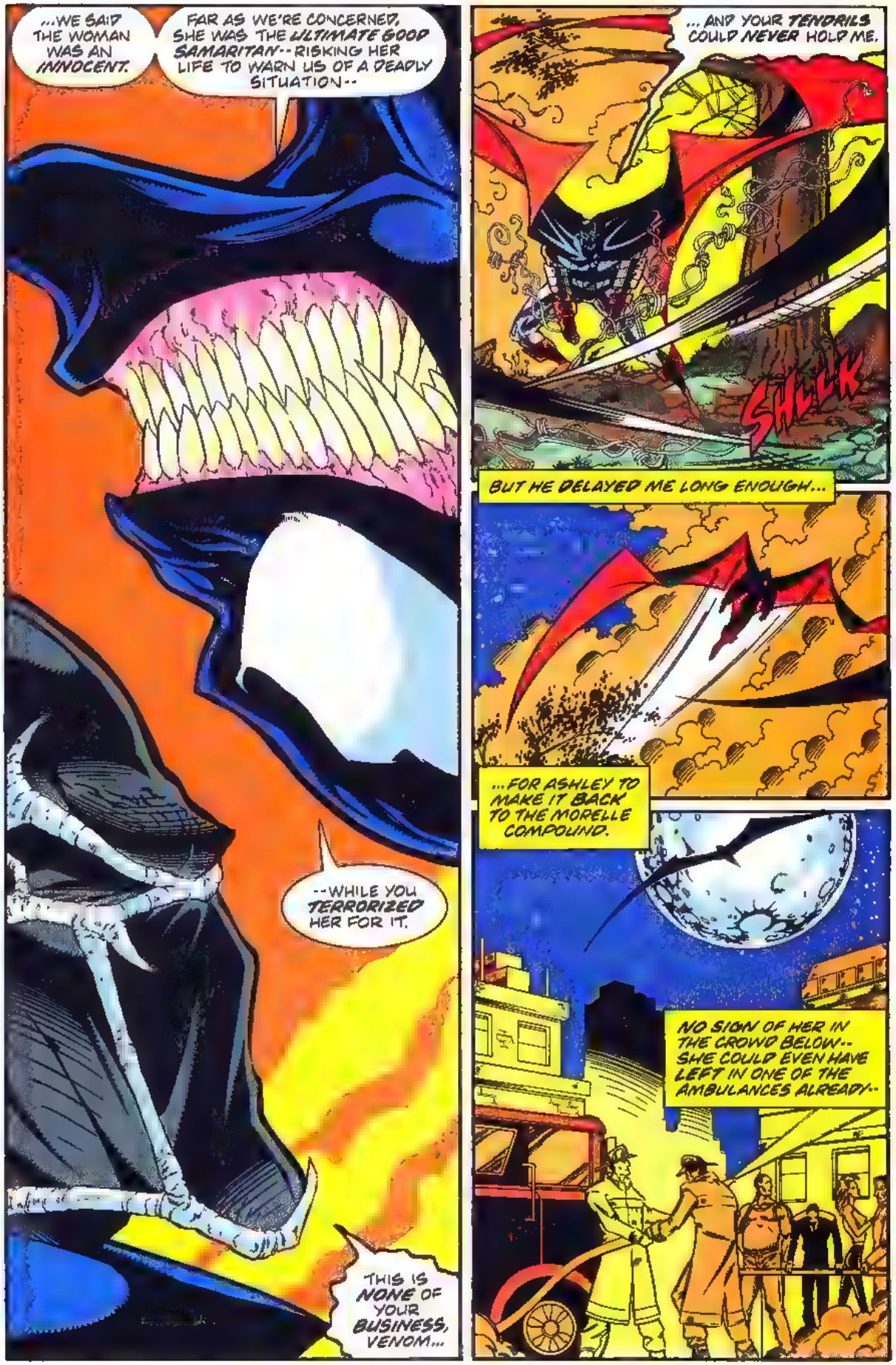

MIGHT AS WELL BE TALKING TO OURSELVES...

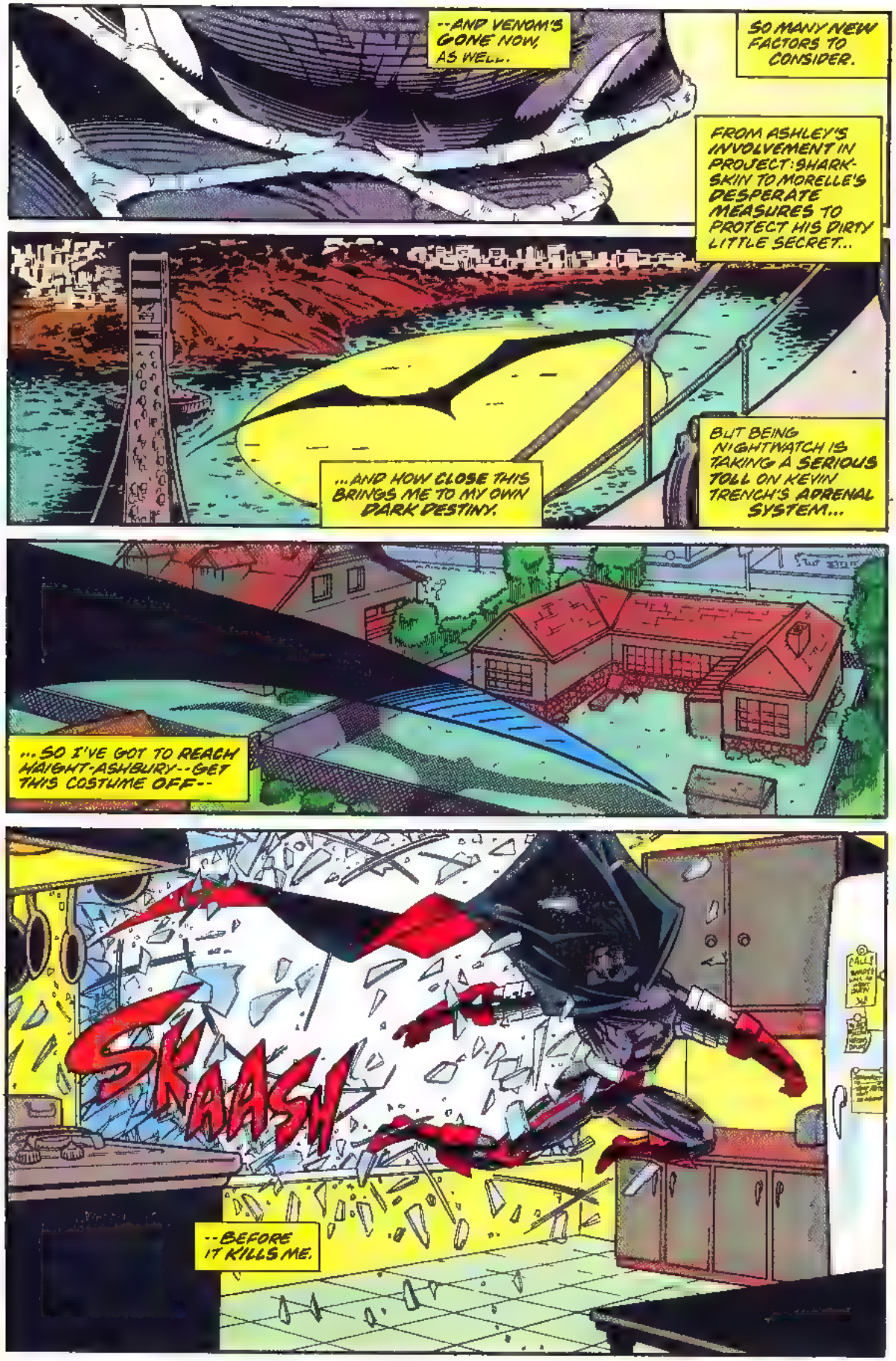

"THE CAPED CRUISER'S ONLY INTERESTED IN THE LADY DOCTOR."
WHERE-- HOW-- DID YOU GET THAT...
...COSTUME?!
EXPLANATIONS WILL HAVE TO WAIT, ASH...
...UNTIL WE FIND SOME PRIVACY.
AND PUT SOME DISTANCE BETWEEN US AND THE FIREWORKS.


"...BEFORE THE BIG BANG."
KWOOM
EMPLOYEES WERE LONG GONE ALREADY, AND EMERGENCY CREWS ARE RESPONDING BY NOW...

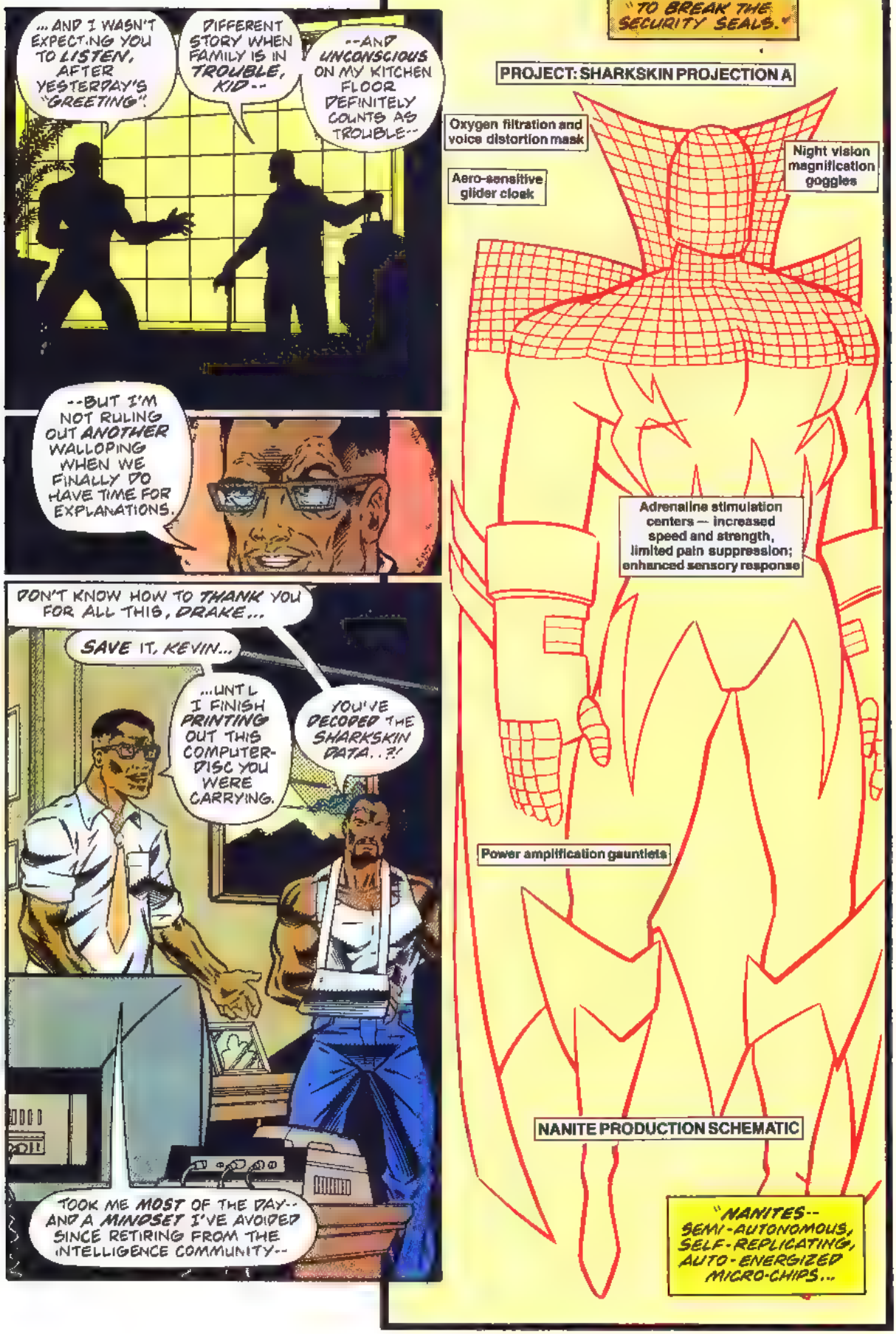

...SO MY GLIDER CLOAK CAN CARRY US TO SAFETY.
WH-WHO ARE YOU--?!
WHY DO YOU KNOW MY NAME?!
HOW COULD YOU BE WEARING A...VERSION OF THE TOP-SECRET SHARKSKIN BATTLE-SUIT--
--THAT WE HAVEN'T EVEN FINISHED YET?!
BEEN WAITING SO LONG FOR THIS MOMENT, THOUGHT SO MUCH ABOUT IT.
...AND I STILL DON'T KNOW WHERE TO BEGIN.
EXCEPT BY REMOVING MY MASK--
AHRR!
LET ME SEE THAT HAND, STRANGER..
...BEFORE I FORGET HOW YOU SAVED MY LIFE BACK THERE.
MASK-MUFFLER KEEPS ASHLEY FROM RECOGNIZING MY VOICE AFTER ALL THESE YEARS--AND MUST MAKE HER MORE THAN A LITTLE NERVOUS--
--BUT FEAR NEVER STOPPED HER.
MULTIPLE MINOR FRACTURES IN THE RIGHT ARM BENEATH THE ELBOW...
FRACTURED BONES--IN THE LOWER RIGHT ARM!?
THE SAME BREAKS I FOUND ON THE ORIGINAL NIGHTWATCH'S CORPSE--MY OWN FUTURE BODY..
--ELIMINATING THE LAST ANOMALY BETWEEN MYSELF AND THAT IMPENDING CRISIS MOMENT.
NO MORE TIME TO WASTE, ASH...
... I NEED TO HEAR EVERYTHING YOU KNOW ABOUT MORELLE PHARMACEUTICALS AND PROJECT:SHARKSKIN NOW.

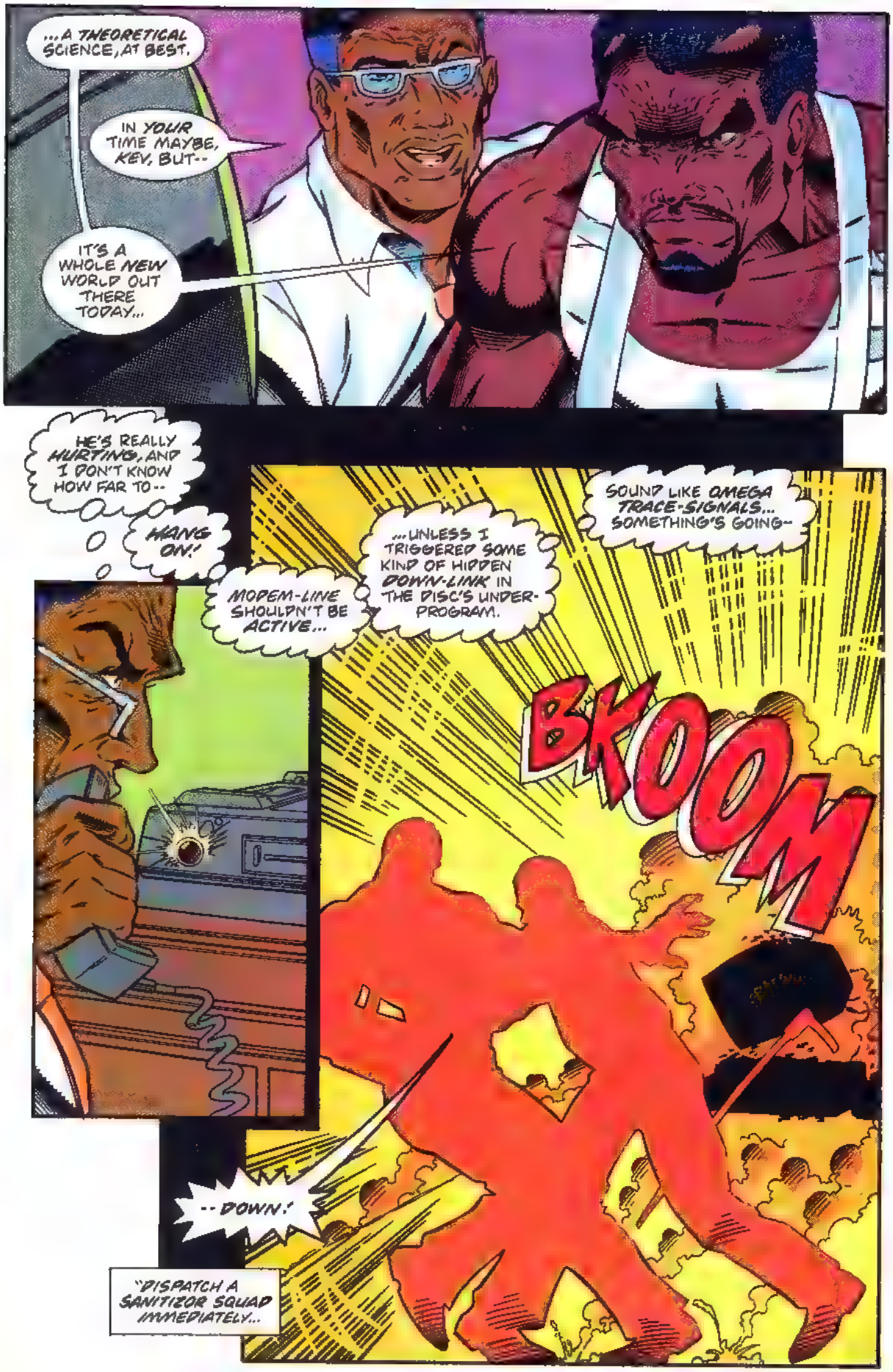

LADY WAS JUST IN THE WRONG PLACE AT THE WRONG TIME, NIGHTWATCH..
I'M IN YOUR DEBT ONCE AGAIN, VENOM.
...BUT WE GOT YOUR SHARKSKIN RIGHT HERE!
HAD SOME TIME TO KILL WHILE YOU CHASED THE PRETTY DOCTOR, SO...
THE BACK-UP DISC FROM THE LAB--?
DOC--
ASHLEY!?
PLP
PLP
WAIT FOR--
"MAYBE YOU WEREN'T LISTENING.

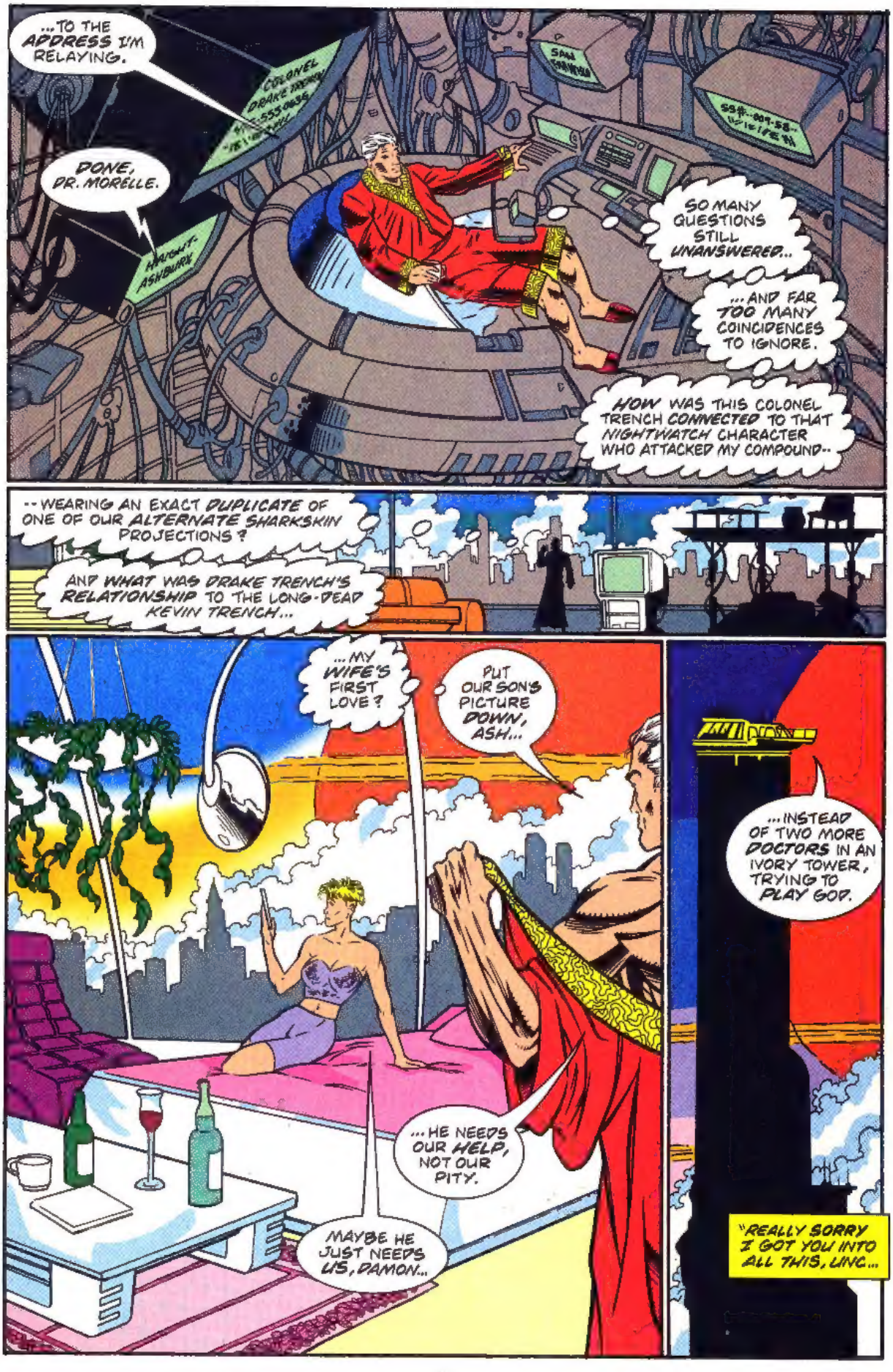

...WE SAID THE WOMAN WAS AN INNOCENT.
FAR AS WE'RE CONCERNED, SHE WAS THE ULTIMATE GOOD SAMARITAN--RISKING HER LIFE TO WARN US OF A DEADLY SITUATION--
--WHILE YOU TERRORIZED HER FOR IT.
THIS IS NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS, VENOM...
...AND YOUR TENDRILS COULD NEVER HOLD ME.
SHE-HULK
BUT HE DELAYED ME LONG ENOUGH...
...FOR ASHLEY TO MAKE IT BACK TO THE MORELLE COMPOUND.
NO SIGN OF HER IN THE CROWD BELOW-- SHE COULD EVEN HAVE LEFT IN ONE OF THE AMBULANCES ALREADY--


--AND VENOM'S GONE NOW, AS WELL.
SO MANY NEW FACTORS TO CONSIDER.
FROM ASHLEY'S INVOLVEMENT IN PROJECT: SHARK-SKIN TO MORELLE'S DESPERATE MEASURES TO PROTECT HIS DIRTY LITTLE SECRET...
...AND HOW CLOSE THIS BRINGS ME TO MY OWN DARK DESTINY.
BUT BEING NIGHTWATCH IS TAKING A SERIOUS TOLL ON KEVIN TRENCH'S ADRENAL SYSTEM...
...SO I'VE GOT TO REACH HAIGHT-ASHBURY--GET THIS COSTUME OFF--
SKAASH
--BEFORE IT KILLS ME.

NOWHERE LEFT TO TURN
...EXCEPT TO A MAN WHO ALREADY REJECTED ME--
...UNCLE DRAKE!?
WHERE'S MY--
IS THIS WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT, KEVIN...
...THE REASON YOU FAKED YOUR OWN DEATH A DECADE AGO?
IT'S JUST NOT THAT SIMPLE, DRAKE...


...AND I WASN'T EXPECTING YOU TO LISTEN, AFTER YESTERDAY'S "GREETING".
DIFFERENT STORY WHEN FAMILY IS IN TROUBLE, KID--
--AND UNCONSCIOUS ON MY KITCHEN FLOOR DEFINITELY COUNTS AS TROUBLE--
--BUT I'M NOT RULING OUT ANOTHER WALLOPING WHEN WE FINALLY DO HAVE TIME FOR EXPLANATIONS.
DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU FOR ALL THIS, DRAKE...
SAVE IT, KEVIN...
...UNTIL I FINISH PRINTING OUT THIS COMPUTER-DISC YOU WERE CARRYING.
YOU'VE DECODED THE SHARKSKIN DATA..?!
TOOK ME MOST OF THE DAY-- AND A MINDSET I'VE AVOIDED SINCE RETIRING FROM THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY--
"TO BREAK THE SECURITY SEALS."
PROJECT: SHARKSKIN PROJECTION A
Oxygen filtration and voice distortion mask
Aero-sensitive glider cloak
Night vision magnification goggles
Adrenaline stimulation centers — increased speed and strength, limited pain suppression; enhanced sensory response
Power amplification gauntlets
NANITE PRODUCTION SCHEMATIC
"NANITES-- SEMI-AUTONOMOUS, SELF-REPLICATING, AUTO-ENERGIZED MICRO-CHIPS...


...A THEORETICAL SCIENCE, AT BEST.
IN YOUR TIME MAYBE, KEV, BUT--
IT'S A WHOLE NEW WORLD OUT THERE TODAY...
HE'S REALLY HURTING, AND I DON'T KNOW HOW FAR TO--
HANG ON!
MODEM-LINE SHOULDN'T BE ACTIVE...
...UNLESS I TRIGGERED SOME KIND OF HIDDEN DOWN-LINK IN THE DISC'S UNDER-PROGRAM.
SOUND LIKE OMEGA TRACE-SIGNALS... SOMETHING'S GOING--
BKOOM
-- DOWN!
"DISPATCH A SANITIZOR SQUAD IMMEDIATELY...


...TO THE ADDRESS I'M RELAYING.
COLONEL DRAKE TRENCH
DONE, DR. MORELLE.
HAIGHT-ASHBURY
SO MANY QUESTIONS STILL UNANSWERED...
...AND FAR TOO MANY COINCIDENCES TO IGNORE.
HOW WAS THIS COLONEL TRENCH CONNECTED TO THAT NIGHTWATCH CHARACTER WHO ATTACKED MY COMPOUND--
--WEARING AN EXACT DUPLICATE OF ONE OF OUR ALTERNATE SHARKSKIN PROJECTIONS?
AND WHAT WAS DRAKE TRENCH'S RELATIONSHIP TO THE LONG-DEAD KEVIN TRENCH...
...MY WIFE'S FIRST LOVE?
PUT OUR SON'S PICTURE DOWN, ASH...
...HE NEEDS OUR HELP, NOT OUR PITY.
MAYBE HE JUST NEEDS US, DAMON...
...INSTEAD OF TWO MORE DOCTORS IN AN IVORY TOWER, TRYING TO PLAY GOD.
"REALLY SORRY I GOT YOU INTO ALL THIS, LINC...

BULLPEN BULLETINS

FUN PAGE!

It feels like Doom's day around here! When we asked for submissions for the Latverian theme song, we were ultra-stunned by the sheer volume of entries! Apparently there are a lot of talented songwriting Marveloids out there! We received original compositions as well as songs written to the tunes of existing songs. (Some of the more bizarre choices included lyrics written to the tunes of such songs as "My Darling Clementine," the Beatles's "Yesterday," the theme to the Brady Bunch, and, in a real stretch, the Fresh Prince's "Boom Shake the Room!" One entrant wrote a polka, and others (Eric Regnell, Hassan Galadan, and Michael Gemkow) even included a cassette tape of their songs! Here then, are the winners to the Latverian National Anthem Contest. Every winner featured on this page received actual stuff found around the offices at Marvel! Winners were chosen based on originality, and how well their songs reflected the majesty — and menace — of Doctor Doom and his land! (It's worth noting here that much to our surprise, only one entrant rhymed "Latveria" with "hysteria," which shows you people are even more creative than we thought!)

First Place winner: **Bob Kronemeyer** of Brown Mills, NJ

"Hail to Latveria"

Hail to Latveria,
For his majesty, Doctor Doom.
Hail to Latveria,
For prosperity and not gloom.

Hail to Von Doom!
Master of us all;
Leader of our country;
Ruler of the small.

Hail to Castle Doom,
Symbol of our might;
Standing tall and secure,
Towering in the night.

Hail to Latveria,
For all it has to give.
Hail to Von Doom,
For whom we serve, to live.

First runner-up: **Dale J. Roberts** of Flowery Branch, GA. Dale's entry came this close to winning! It's sung to the tune of "America the Beautiful"

"Latveria the Beautiful"

O Watchful are the master's eyes,
They guard the wood and plain.
For bountiful our harvests be,
And all our foemen slain!

CHORUS: Latveria, Latveria,
Doom watches over thee.
His merest whim we do for him
For his strength keeps us free!

Though some might strive to break our chains,
And fear to our shores bring,
The master's hand protects our land,
His praises do we sing.

(REPEAT CHORUS)

Second runner-up: **Kirk Baldridge** of The Colony, TX.

"Latveria Latveria"

Latveria, Latveria,
The greatest land of all.
To you we pledge our lives and love,
With you we can stand tall.

Our wise and armored monarch,
The mighty Doctor Doom,
Will keep us safe beneath his hand,
And forever banish gloom.

Latveria, Latveria,
Our pride is always true.
For Doctor Doom, our leader,
We're ever loyal to you
Latveria!

Third runner-up: **Mark Hadzega** of Middlebury, CT. Mark sent in not only sheet music, but also the Latverian translation of his song! Talk about going above and beyond the call of duty!

"Doom"

Doom is our monarch,
For whom to the death we fight.
The Netherworld, too,
Cannot stand against his might.

Doom rules the day,
Doom rules the night.
Worlds and stars tremble before,
His illustrious might.

Congratulations to all the winners and everyone who entered.

If Doctor Doom were still alive, he would be very proud, and he wouldn't have any of you executed!

In the border of this page is a list of everyone who entered! Though our runner-ups don't receive any prizes, they're still winners to us.

The Hype Box

Beginning this week in PUNISHER: WAR JOURNAL is a story called "Final Entry" by **Steven Grant, Hugh Haynes,** and **Scott Koblish**! The action kicks off when the Punisher's battle-van is stolen, with his War Journal inside! Editor **Don Daley** said that the mysterious van-thief will be "learning the Punisher's secrets, and using them against him!" The back-up story features Lynn and Payback, featuring "dynamic" art by **Kevin Kobasic** and **Elman Brown**, which Don raves, "must be seen!"

NOW ON SALE

- **BARBIE FASHION #45:** Barbie and Ken hit the beach and catch some rays! By Slate/Mortimer!
- **BLACK CAT #3:** The **First Strikers** want to clip the Cat's claws! By Kavanagh & Cavalieri/Wildman/Baskerville!
- **BLADE: THE VAMPIRE HUNTER #3:** Dracula puts the bite on Blade! By Edginton/Wheatley/Ivy!
- **BLAZE #2:** When in Florida, make sure you stop and fight the **Man-Thing**! By Hama/Martinez/LaRosa!
- **DOCTOR WHO: CLASSIC COMICS #23:** Wouldja believe the Daleks are back?
- **DOCTOR WHO 1994 SUMMER SPECIAL:** The Doctor enters a living city! By Gray/Andrew!
- **DR. STRANGE #69:** It's magic vs. magnetism when Strange fights **Polaris**! By Quinn/Rubi/Harper!
- **FANTASTIC FOUR #392:** The first appearance of the **Fantastic Force**! By DeFalco/Ryan/Bulanadi!
- **GALACTIC GUARDIANS #3 OF 4:** Has **Replica** turned traitor? By Gallagher/West/Montano!
- **HELLSTORM #18:** Bad heavens! Daimon performs an exorcism on an angel! By Ellis/Mancol
- **IRON MAN #308:** Tony wages war against the **Vortex**! By Kaminski/Morgan/Mitchell!
- **MARVEL MASTERPIECES II #3 OF 3:** Trading cards have turned into comics!
- **NEW WARRIORS #51:** There are *too many* Warriors! Some have got to go! By Nicieza/Pace/Mahlstedt!
- **NIGHTWATCH #6:** Nightwatch was looking for a lost relative — he found **Venom**! By Kavanagh/Tenney!
- **PUNISHER 2099 #20: Vendetta** has a score to settle with Jake! By Mills & Skinner/Coleby/Williams!
- **PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #70:** The Final Entry of the War Journal begins here! By Dixon & Grant/Haynes & Brown/Gray, Koblish & McKenna!
- **SILVER SURFER #95:** The Hulk, Surfer, and **Fantastic Four** trapped underground! By Ron Marz/J. Hall/McKenna
- **SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #218:** The **Scorpion** will rock Spidey like a hurricane! By DeFalco/Buscema!
- **SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #14:** The Diary of the Green Goblin! By DeMatteis & Lyle/Buscema!
- **SPIDER-MAN: THE ARACHNIS PROJECT #2:** The **Diggers** stir up trouble! By Lackey/Wildman/Baskerville!
- **SPIDER-MAN: WEB OF DOOM #2:** Spidey wanted for *murder*! Film at 11! By Harris/Williams/DeLaRosa!
- **THOR #478:** Red-headed Thor fights blond **Thor**! May the best god win! By Thomas/Wyman/DeCarlo!
- **THUNDERSTRIKE #12:** Introducing **Whyte Out**! He wants to wipe you out! By DeFalco/Frenz/Milgrom!
- **VENOM: NIGHTS OF VENGEANCE #2: Hybrid** mercenaries hunt Venom! By Lackie/Lim/Milgrom!
- **X-FORCE #30:** Who is the bigger threat — Doug-lok or the **Phalanx**? 48 pages! By Nicieza/Daniel/Holdredge!
- **X-MEN CLASSIC #99:** Power Pack joins the **Morlocks**! X-Men to the rescue! By Claremont/Romita Jr./Austin & Green!
- **X-MEN UNLIMITED #6: Sauron** vows: No one leaves the Savage Land alive! By Moore/Smith!

... BUT IF NOT FOR YOUR SURVIVAL SKILLS--
BETTER THE HOUSE THAN US, KEVIN.
SOME INSTINCTS DIE HARD.
THAT'S WHY THIS PLANE WAS NEVER REGISTERED IN MY NAME...
...AND I DIDN'T FILE A FLIGHT PLAN TONIGHT.
BEST PLACE TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS MYSTERY IS BACK WHERE IT ALL STARTED...
"...IN NEW YORK CITY."
HELLO, DR. WIRTHAM-- ELI--
--IT'S KILLIAN FOX.
I WAS HOPING WE COULD FINISH OUR CONVERSATION ABOUT KEVIN TRENCH--
EMPTY...

"...BUT I COULD HAVE SWORN I SAW SOMEONE COMING IN HERE."
YOU'LL NEVER FIND THE HIDDEN PANEL THAT LEADS TO THIS SOUND-PROOFED LAB, MS. FOX...
...BEFORE CARDIAXE IS JUICED TO KILL!
NEXT: CARDIAXED!